
March 4, 2010

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján voted for the HIRE Act, which is designed to create jobs through tax relief to small businesses and other investments. The legislation passed by a vote of 217 to 201. It will now be referred back to the Senate.

“During these difficult economic times, we must empower small businesses to hire employees and encourage economic growth,” said Rep. Luján. “Small businesses are the drivers of our economy--when we help them, we help get our economy back on track.”

The HIRE Act includes:

- A payroll tax holiday for businesses that hire unemployed workers, to create some 300,000 jobs and an income tax credit of \$1,000 for businesses that retain these employees
- Tax cuts to spur new investment by small businesses to help them expand and hire more workers
- Extension of the Highway Trust Fund, allowing for tens of billions of dollars in infrastructure investment
- Provisions – modeled after the Build America Bonds program – to make it easier for states to borrow for infrastructure projects, such as school construction and energy projects

The legislation is paid for over 10 years.